

MINNEKOTAN

Published by Minnesota-Dakotas District of Kiwanis International

August 2009

Leading to Serve ... District Convention: A Class Act

Bill Lardy, District Governor

What a fantastic weekend! There is so much to be said about the overall convention yet so little time and space. Several congratulations and thanks must be given:

Congratulations to the 7 Region Star Award recipients:

Dr. Mark Hildahl, Region 1, Minot
Sara Piekarski, Region 2, Fergus Falls
Jerry Benson, Region 3, Brainerd
Dick Tinker, Region 4, Lead
Jane Evenson, Region 5, Clear Lake
Richard Hogle, Region 6, Willmar
Mary Brouillard, Region 7, Stewartville



Each one is a true inspiration and very much deserving of the recognition granted by his or her club and region and the district. If you know these people please congratulate them on their award and thank them for their service. On behalf of the District it is an honor and privilege that I extend congratulations and thanks to these 7 outstanding individuals and true Kiwanians.

Thank you to all delegates, members and guests for attending and participating so completely during the convention. Your enthusiasm and spirit made the convention exciting and interesting.

Thanks to forum presenters. Your in-depth discussions and thoughtful presentations gave everyone who attended each program food for thought and useful ideas to help change the world.

Thank you to the Watertown Club for their warmth and hospitality at the registration table and throughout the entire weekend. You made all who attended feel welcome. Thank you, Past Governor Stewart Ross, newly elected to the International Board of

Trustees, for your wisdom and support as Trustee Counselor. We were pleased to have had you with us in that capacity and proud to say you are "one of us".

Thank you to convention co-directors Pat and Larry Rittgarn. Your complete attention to detail and careful organization made the convention flow smoothly.

Finally, congratulations to Bruce Klair and Lowell Disrud on being elected 2009-2010 Governor and Governor Elect. The district will be in good hands under their leadership.

Update from the District Secretary/Treasurer

Submitted by: Steve Handegaard

District Convention: Our District Convention in Watertown is now history. It was a great time with lots of Kiwanis education and fellowship. Thanks to all that played a part in making it such a successful convention. Registrations for the convention included: 264 total participants; 84 clubs and 155 voting delegates. Plans are already underway for another great district convention in 2010 in Fargo, ND. Mark the dates on your calendar- August 13-15. All clubs should be represented at the district convention! It is a great opportunity to learn new ideas, meet new friends and enjoy great Kiwanis fellowship. Please set aside funds in your club budget to financially support those attending from your club next year.



Club Secretaries: Be sure that you have submitted all of your monthly online club reports for the 08-09 year. Remember that the September report (last report of the year) is due by October 10th, 2009. With the new monthly online reporting system you will not be asked to submit a separate annual report.

Thanks again to Club Secretaries for submitting the **Annual Club Election Reports** for 2009-2010. The reports were due June 1, so if you have not submitted your information online, please do so ASAP! We are still waiting for 29 club election reports! Please include email addresses whenever possible. It is very important that Kiwanis International and the District Office both receive this information in a timely manner so that directories and mailing lists can be compiled. Most club secretaries filed the report online and that automatically goes to both Kiwanis International and the District Office.

Key Leader Event- Please encourage your club to select and sponsor some youth to the Key Leader Camp to be held October 2-4 at Inspiration Point Camp near Clitherall, MN. We currently need at least 30 or more youth!! We need registrations as soon as possible. This is an outstanding leadership development experience for all youth ages 14-18. The event is open to all and any youth. To learn more about the event go to the Key Leader website at www.key-leader.org or contact our District Key Leader Chair, Clover Ellingson at cloverjean@cableone.net

Key Club International Tour - June 29-July 7, 2009

Submitted by: Mary Beth Townsend, Dist. Key Club Administrator

This year, the Minn-Dak District teamed up again with members from the Nebraska-Iowa District to travel down to Dallas, Texas for the Key Club International Convention. Fifty-three of us traveled by coach bus and our first stop was Kansas City, Missouri, where everyone participated in sorting food at Harvester's. Before our food packing service project, we toured the facility and learned about the impact Harvester's has in the Kansas City area as well as the great need for food banks and assistance.



We left Harvesters and headed for the Kansas City Zoo. There, we got to explore the zoo and get a bite to eat. The weather was typical for KC, hot and muggy, but the kids enjoyed themselves and the kangaroos were cool and cage free!

Then, we headed to our hotel in Kansas City, Kansas so we could change and get ready for our district dinner at Dave and Buster's. By the evening's end, everyone was ready to get to bed!

We were up early the next morning and on our way to Dallas. Along the way, members could learn to knit and were given knitting needles and yarn generously donated by the Yarn Garage. Everyone was encouraged to knit a square that would be sewn together to make a quilt and donated to a needy family once the trip was over.

On our way to Dallas, we stopped off in Oklahoma City at the Murrow Building Bomb Memorial. We could have spent lots more time in the museum and walking around the gardens, but we had to make it to the Key Club International Convention.

Finally we reached Dallas! Our district's theme this year is Lights, Camera, SERVICE! so we dressed up in Hollywood style for the opening general session. Our tour group was joined by a small group from Fargo, North Dakota

The convention was filled with forums and workshops, two dances, an awards night where Greenway won 3rd place for Nontraditional Scrapbook and Fridley won 3rd place for their Traditional Scrapbook. Fargo North, Fridley and Hibbing Key Clubs all received recognition for having achieved Diamond Level Status for Achievement this past spring.

What is the Kiwanis Outreach Program

Submitted by: Ann Backes Dodge, District Circle K Administrator

The Kiwanis Outreach Program was started in the early 1980's to provide a closer relationship with the Kiwanis Youth Sponsored Programs of Key Club and Circle K and Kiwanis. The funds are split equally unless otherwise noted by the donating Kiwanis club.



So, how does the Circle K District use these funds? The funds Circle K District receives help provide various educational and leadership experiences such as the Kiwanis District Scholarship, funding travels to other K-Family events such as the District Kiwanis Convention, and to provide necessary funding for leadership opportunities such as the Leadershape Academy and Governor-Administrator Training Conference. The funds also help in subsidizing the district budget the dues do not cover.

For Minnesota-Dakotas Circle K District, this is detrimental. In these times, college students struggle with increasing tuition, books, and living expenses. We have some students in our district that work 2 to 3 jobs to make ends meet and yet, they still find time to volunteer and participate with the Circle K on their campus.

THANK YOU to all the Kiwanis clubs in the Minnesota-Dakotas Kiwanis District that have made contributions to Outreach so far this Kiwanis year. The Minnesota-Dakotas Circle K District appreciates every dollar received. THANK YOU for taking interest in our youth sponsored programs and for investing in the leaders of tomorrow.

Rough Rider Country, Dickinson
Columbia Heights-Fridley Kiwanis
North Hennepin-Minneapolis Kiwanis
Worthington Early Risers Kiwanis
Hutchinson Kiwanis
Alexandria Golden K
Region 7 Silent Auction
St. Cloud Kiwanis
South Sioux Falls Kiwanis
Lake City Kiwanis
Spearfish Kiwanis
Sioux Falls Kiwanis
Fargo Southpointe Kiwanis
Brainerd Kiwanis
Red Wing Golden K Kiwanis
Grand Rapids Kiwanis
Spring Valley Kiwanis

Crookston Pioneer
Bismarck Golden K
St, Anthony Kiwanis
Winthrop Kiwanis
Region 6 Kiwanis Clubs

If your club has any questions regarding Outreach, please contact Kiwanis District Secretary Stephen Handegaard or myself.

In the Spirit of Service,

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To view more news and current and past MINNEKOTAN newsletters go to www.mndak-kiwanis.org and click on "News".

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE MINNEKOTAN NEWSLETTER

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Be sure to select "MnDak Kiwanis Newsletter" from the list.

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Fairmont Early Riser Pre-Prom Dinner a Huge Success

Club: Fairmont, Early Risers - Submitted by: Gene Tonne

April 25th, 2009, found the Fairmont Kiwanis Club, Early Risers extremely involved in implementing the preparations they had been making for the Pre-Prom Dinner for Fairmont Area High School students and their guests. As the guests began to arrive around 5:00 P.M. they were first attended to by Kiwanians valet parking, and escorted into the Red Rock Center for the Arts by formally attired Kiwanians and directed to a complimentary photo shoot, hors d'oeuvres, punch and a social hour before the meal was to be served. While music from "Romeo and Juliet's Garden" played in the background, the Prom goers enjoyed the punch and snacks, and the formal atmosphere.



After all 117 guests were seated; they were waited on by black-tied Kiwanis members who served them salad, beef steak, new potatoes and Mexican corn, topped off with cheesecake for dessert. For guests who preferred a vegetarian menu, meatless lasagna was prepared. The whole meal was prepared by Rev. Russell Reimers, a past club President, whose passion for cooking has been the mainstay for many Early Riser Fundraisers.

The event was deemed a great success and received great coverage from The Sentinel, our local newspaper, whose reporter was also an invited guest. Roger Holtey, current club President commented about the Dinner giving students an option to celebrate Pre-Prom in elegant style without enduring a large cost to them.

President Holtey also credited the success to the event to the dedication of Early Riser Club members to youth and their spirit of volunteerism. He also acknowledged Fairmont High School Teacher, Jeff Naumann, with administering the details of student pre-sign up for the affair and working closely with Club member Loren Dunham to coordinate the whole event.